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For Immediate Release
May 12, 2005

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16th Annual Community Arts Celebration Set For University Circle on June 11

CLEVELAND, OH (May 12, 2005) — University Circle, Cleveland's cultural hub, will radiate with exciting events for everyone on **Saturday, June 11, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** as part of the 16th annual **Parade the Circle Celebration**. More than 25 of University Circle's organizations will be uniting to offer dozens of hands-on activities to complement the highlight of the day, a kinetic arts parade at **noon**. This year's celebration features interactive activities and musical performances along the parade route to engage the audience as they await the rhythmic and colorful procession.

Presented by the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) and University Circle Incorporated (UCI), this **free**, daylong event engages thousands of participants and spectators in a display of brilliant color and creative fun. The Parade, sponsored by the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art, will begin at noon and proceed around Wade Oval.

16th Annual Parade

"Parade the Circle showcases the talents of regional, national and international artists, in collaboration with residents of Greater Cleveland in a celebration of the creative spirit," explains Robin VanLear, artistic director of Parade and CMA's community arts program. "Thanks to the backing of the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art, Parade continues to exemplify what creative heights are possible when professional artists and community members inspire and support each other."

The creations in Parade the Circle are handmade and people powered without written words, logos, motorized vehicles, or live animals. Focusing on artistic expression and creativity, the Parade features handmade masks, costumes, giant puppets and floats enlivened by dancers, stilt dancers and music ensembles.

"The theme for this year's Parade, ***Inside Out***, provides the framework for a complex, interactive Parade opening and finale unlike previous parade presentations," said VanLear.

New for 2005 are two different outreach collaborations at Art House with students from Old Brooklyn Montessori School. Wendy Mahon, a parade artist for the last ten years, assisted by Scott Heiser, will be working with 6th, 7th and 8th graders to create a herd of 30 giant puppets created to look like multicolored giraffes, carried by the students.

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Working with students from the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades at Old Brooklyn, is Ana Paula Jones a performing artist from Brazil who specializes in Carnival traditions from all regions of her native country. Jones will be working with Myra Rasmussen of Midway, Ore., a young artist who has spent several months teaching art in Brazil. Together with Moises Borges and Story Rhinehart of Cleveland, they will create a parade ensemble based on “Maracatu,” a carnival tradition of Northern Brazil.

Also new in 2005 is an outreach collaboration with Global Awareness Through the Arts & Sciences based at Windemere Church in East Cleveland. Parade Outreach coordinator Debbie Apple-Presser assisted by Julia Pankhurst will be working with elementary school age boys enrolled in the church’s after school program to create the environment of Lake Titicaca in the Andes. The students will be creating the lake’s famous islands of cattail reeds including the aqueous life underneath.

The 2005 Parade will see the addition of guest artists from the following countries and disciplines, Trinidad and Tobago – three visual arts Carnival specialists and three virtuoso steel pan musicians; Puerto Rico – Pedro Adorno and Cathy Vigo, the creative directors of the Agua, Sol y Sereno performance art company; Brazil – Ana Paula Jones, performing artist and Carnival specialist; Canada – Brad Harley and Rick Simon (stilt dancing specialists). In addition, the artists from the following states will participate as well, Oregon – Myra; Minnesota – Mary Jo Nikolai and Amy Ballestad; Connecticut – Anne Cubberly; and New York – Sharon Epperson. Each of these artists has been in Parade before, however, Jones, Adorno and Vigo are making their first appearance in many years. Crowd favorites Mary Jo and Amy this year will mark their last appearance for a number of years.

The highlight of Parade 2005 is sure to be the unique approach to the Parade's opening and finale which are designed to illuminate the theme “Inside Out.” PANic, Parade's signature steel band, will lead off the procession accompanying an ensemble of 36 masked dancers from all over Cleveland whose costumes will evolve as they dance around the parade route. Upon reaching the end of the circular route, the majority of these dancers will turn around and meander backwards through the onslaught of oncoming paraders until reaching the beginning once more where they merge into the finale. In addition, PANic will lead off the finale.

For 2005, several guest artists and their outreach collaborations will be incorporated into the finale. The overall finale concept is by Mark Jenks, Cleveland artist who is making his first appearance as an ensemble artist in several years. Jenks is creating a "large" carnival style, rolling apparition, hinted at in the 2005 parade poster and T-shirt which will define the Parade’s finale.

Note: Public workshops to prepare for **Parade the Circle Celebration** (June 11, 2005) began at the CMA April 29, 2005 and continue right up to Parade Day. Basic workshops focus on making masks, costumes and giant puppets while special workshops teach batik and stiltdancing. Participants can create their own ensembles using papier mâché, cloth, and recycled materials. Interested representatives should call CMA’s community arts office at (216) 707-2483 for more information.

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Circle Village

Parade the Circle Celebration festivities include Circle Village – a creative blend of engaging activities, dance, and musical performances and delectable dishes from area restaurants.

More than 20 of the Circle's cultural institutions, including museums and gardens offer a variety of hands-on activities for people of all ages. For example, the Western Reserve Historical Society will helps kids create a 3-D pop-up card that features Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are* characters on a visit to Millionaire's Row. Afterward, visitors can cool off with a personally decorated bird/dinosaur fan and explore dinosaur bones, bird mounts, an 18-foot-tall dinosaur and live raptors from The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Other activities include taking HealthSpace Cleveland's Stuffee apart and examining his major chest and abdominal organs; creating a magical seed amulet that you can see grow from the inside out with Cleveland Botanical Garden; and looking out from the inside of a bubble with a bubbleologist from The Cleveland Public Library.

And back by popular demand, The Cleveland Music School Settlement and The Cleveland Orchestra encourage participants to discover the magic of music during *Musical Discovery: It's Instrumental*. Paraders are invited to toot, drum and bow on a variety of instruments under the guidance of members of the Settlement Youth Orchestras and the Cleveland Youth Orchestra.

Music and Entertainment

Entertainment featured before and after the parade will spotlight some of Cleveland's finest dance troupes, musical groups and street performers. The perfect complement to the spirited procession and craft activities, the entertainment schedule affords visitors the opportunity to experience Cleveland's talented and varied dance scene, from Verb Ballets and Lake Erie College's Dance/Theatre Collective to Inlet Dance Theatre and Get Hep Swing. Once inspired, do the limbo to the reggae/calypso beat of NuHu and let loose with the compelling music of Roberto Ocasio's Latin Jazz Project or Baba Jubal's One World Rhythm. Other musical performers include hard rockin' swamp poppin' Cats on Holiday, eclectic world music percussion ensemble Drum Play, dynamic classical/jazz quartet Kassaba, rhythmic Brazilian jazz group Moises Borges and the Bossa Nova Quartet, hot 10-piece jazz ensemble Funkology, eye-catching central African Kombe Acrobatic Troupe, and show-stopping PANic Steel Drum Band. Exceptionally entertaining and engaging street performers include John Flower – Mad Mountain Juggler, Flower Clown, Balloon Artist, The Great Brad - Magician and RW Magic. Entertainment stages are located at the institutions along the Parade route.

Throughout the day, visitors can enjoy mouth-watering treats from some of the area's finest food vendors including: Bon Appetit**,** Celebrations by Aunt Elaine, Crepe Expectations, European Gourmet Almonds, Hot Sauce Williams, Karma on Coventry, Munch: A Simple Kitchen, Pearl of the Orient, Quiznos Sub, Rascal House Pizza and Uptowne.

"Each institution works for months prior to Parade the Circle Celebration to create an engaging activity for the public to enjoy," notes Terri Hamilton Brown president of UCI. "University Circle Incorporated is delighted to present these activities showcasing the Circle. It's a fabulous, fun day."

To view the nonstop entertainment schedule complete with times and locations for each performance, please visit http://www.universitycircle.org/events/ptcc_2005_home.html .

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Parking and Handicapped Seating

The Parade route and other streets will be closed to traffic from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parking is available for $8 at these locations: the Ford/Euclid Avenue surface lot, the Ford Drive garage, the Case garage adjacent to Severance Hall on East Blvd. and other area lots and garages. Handicapped parking is available for $8 at The Cleveland Institute of Art (entrance off Bellflower Road) and The Cleveland Institute of Music (entrance off Hazel Drive). Handicapped seating will be available on the front lawns of The Cleveland Institute of Music (11021 East Boulevard) and The Cleveland Institute of Art (11141 East Boulevard). View www.universitycircle.org for maps and details on parking and street closings.

Note: The CMA surface lot will be closed all day. The parking deck will be closed to the public until 1 p.m. Space will be limited in the afternoon.

* * *

Those interested in participating in the Parade should contact the CMA's community arts office at (216) 707-2483. For more information about CMA and its events, call **1-888-CMA-0033** or visit **www.clevelandart.org**. For questions about Circle Village, contact UCI at (216) 707-5033 or visit **http://www.universitycircle.org/events/ptcc_2005_home.html**.

* * *

Circle Village is presented by UCI. Promotional support is provided by 89.7 WKSU, The Plain Dealer and Northern Ohio Live.

The Parade is sponsored by the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art. Additional support for the event comes from the Ohio Arts Council, Coca-Cola, the City of Cleveland, Cleveland City Council members, Patricia J. Britt (Ward 6), Sabra Pierce Scott (Ward 8), and Kevin Conwell (Ward 9), Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners Jimmy Dimora, Timothy F. Hagan and Peter Lawson Jones, Target Corporation, Plidco and the Black McDonald's Owners Association.

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FACT SHEET FOR
PARADE

What: **Parade the Circle Celebration** features an annual community arts parade that relies solely on artistic expression, omitting the use of words, logos, motorized vehicles or live animals (wheelchairs and assist dogs permitted). Members of Greater Cleveland communities collaborate with Cleveland artists and guest artists from around the world to create their own imaginative floats, costumes, and masks during Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) public workshops or at their own locations. Music and movement are integrated into the ensembles.

When: Saturday, June 11, 2005. The Parade begins from the CMA parking lot at noon and Circle Village festivities take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on and around Wade Oval.

Where: On University Circle's Wade Oval and adjacent lawn areas at the Cleveland Botanical Garden, The Cleveland Institute of Music/Case Western Reserve University, The Western Reserve Historical Society, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio.

Parade Route: Beginning at noon, the Parade will exit the CMA parking lot and turn right, winding its way counterclockwise around the Oval, passing the Cleveland Botanical Garden, The Cleveland Institute of Music, Western Reserve Historical Society and The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Returning to the CMA driveway, the Parade will disperse on Wade Oval.

Parade Theme: The theme for this year's Parade is **Inside Out**.

Parade History: Robin VanLear, after serving as the artistic director for the *Summer Solstice Celebration* in Santa Barbara, California, came to CMA to design and organize the first Parade the Circle in 1990. It has grown from 100 participants and 1,000 spectators to an event including 2,000 paraders and more than 50,000 spectators.

Guest Artists: Parade the Circle Celebration 2005 will feature three guest artists returning to Parade after a long absence. Pedro Adorno and Cathy Vigo co-directors of Agua, Sol y Sereno in Puerto Rico are making their first Parade appearance in six years. They will be working with the Hispanic Senior Center and the Passport Project to create an element of the Parade finale.

Performing artist, Ana Paula Jones, of Brazil is returning to Parade after a 10-year absence to lead a Maracatu ensemble, which will be created with students from Old Brooklyn Elementary. Myra Rasmussen, of Midway Oregon, recently spent 6 months teaching in Brazil and working on Carnival there. She will participate in Parade for the first time, assisting Ana Paula with the Maracatu ensemble.

International Guest artists returning for Parade 2005 will include 6 Trinabagonians. Three are carnival specialists: Ronald Guy, Michael Guy-James, and Murphy Winters, and three are steel pan musicians: Kelvin Cadiz, Oliver Hospedales and Nkhruma Potts.

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Several national artists returning for this year's 16th annual parade are Anne Cubberly (Hartford, CT), Amy Ballestad, Mary Jo Nikolai, (Minneapolis, MN) and Sharon Epperson (New York, NY).

Souvenirs: Parade the Circle Celebration commemorative posters designed by Parade Artist Jesse Rhinehart and T-shirts designed by Parade Artist Mark Jenks will be available for purchase. Postcards and pins will also be sold at the event.

Organizers: Parade the Circle Celebration is presented by the institutions of University Circle. The Parade is produced by the CMA and the Circle Village is coordinated by University Circle Incorporated.

Sponsors: The parade is sponsored by the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art. Additional support for the event comes from the Ohio Arts Council; the Cleveland Coca-Cola Bottling Company; Plidco; Target Corp.; the City of Cleveland; Cleveland City Council members Patricia J. Britt (Ward 6), Sabra Pierce Scott (Ward 8), and Kevin Conwell (Ward 9); and Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners Jimmy Dimora, Timothy F. Hagan and Peter Lawson Jones. Promotional support is provided by 89.7 WKSU, The Plain Dealer, and Northern Ohio Live.

Media Contacts: Rob Bruder, (216) 707-2265; rbruder@clevelandart.org.
Michael Horgan, (216) 707-5020; mhorgan@universitycircle.org.

See enclosed news release, additional fact sheet, artist biographies, and map for more information.
For more information about CMA and its events, call **1-888-CMA-0033** or visit **www.clevelandart.org**.

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May 3, 2005

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FACT SHEET FOR
CIRCLE VILLAGE

What: The Circle Village festivities involve more than 20 University Circle organizations, each presenting hands-on activities for people of all ages. Activities reflect the mission of each organization. Locally and regionally acclaimed music ensembles and strolling entertainment will perform throughout the day, and visitors may enjoy a wide selection of foods from nearly a dozen local restaurants and caterers.

When: Saturday, June 11, 2005, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: On University Circle's Wade Oval and adjacent lawn areas at The Cleveland Institute of Music, Case Western Reserve University, The Cleveland Institute of Art, The Western Reserve Historical Society, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio.

Entertain-ment:

Kulas Community Stage on Wade Oval

11 p.m.	Cats On Holiday
1:30 p.m.	NuHu
3 p.m.	Roberto Ocasio's Latin Jazz Project

Cleveland Botanical Garden

11 p.m.	John Flower, Mad Mountain Juggler

Cleveland Institute of Music/Case Western Reserve University

11 p.m.	Flower Clown, Balloon Artist
11 p.m.	One World Rhythm
1:30 p.m.	Drum Play
3 p.m.	Agua Sol y Sereno Residency

Western Reserve Historical Society

11 p.m.	RW Magic
11 p.m.	Kassaba
1:30 p.m.	Moises Borges and the Bossa Nova Quartet
3 p.m.	Funkology

Cleveland Museum of Natural History

11 p.m.	Verb Ballets
Noon	Dance Theatre Collective
2 p.m.	Get Hep Swing
3 p.m.	Inlet Dance Theatre

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Cleveland Museum of Art

11 p.m.	The Great Brad, Magician
11 p.m.	Kombe Acrobatic Troupe
2 p.m.	PANic Steel Drum Band
3 p.m.	PANic Proteges

Activities:

Quench Your Thirst Creatively
The Children's Museum of Cleveland

Decorate a water bottle and drink "healthier ever after."

Seed Necklaces
Cleveland Botanical Garden

Make a magical seed amulet. Wear it and watch the seeds grow into plants from the inside out.

Let's Communicate
Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center

Learn from a bear how to communicate through sign language and temporary tattoos.

Shake, Rattle and Grow
The Cleveland Institute of Art
Cleveland Institute of Music
Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

Construct colorful shakers filled with sunflower seeds. Play your own music in the percussive *Tower of Sound*. Learn about watersheds and how to help the environment through the EnviroScape.

Mudomorphosis
The Cleveland Museum of Art

Have a hand in transforming a thousand pounds of clay.

Tattoo Fun
Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art

Look cool with a colorful temporary tattoo.

Feathered Dinosaurs: The Bird/Dinosaur Connection
The Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Cool off with a personally decorated bird/dinosaur fan. Explore dinosaur bones, bird mounts, an 18-foot-tall dinosaur and live raptors from the Wildlife Center.

Musical Discovery: It's Instrumental
The Cleveland Music School Settlement
The Cleveland Orchestra

Discover the magic of music as you toot, drum and bow on a variety of instruments under the guidance of members of the Settlement Youth Orchestras and The Cleveland Youth Orchestra.

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Up or Down, Inside or Out
The Cleveland Public Library

Look out from the inside of a bubble with a bubbleologist. Enjoy puppets, string stories, streamers, paper fortunetellers and the bookmobile.

Greetings and Games
Dunham Tavern Museum

Send a hand-decorated postcard of this historic landmark to a loved one. Use string to play timeless games such as cat's cradle.

Mosaic Sun Catchers
Epworth-Euclid United Methodist Church

Make a sun catcher that reflects beautiful colors as the sun passes through it.

Turn Stuffee Inside Out
HealthSpace Cleveland

Take Stuffee apart and put him back together again. Examine his major chest and abdominal organs. Use the intestine rope to measure the length of your own intestines.

Stepping Stones of Art
Karamu House Incorporated

Create a community art project with Karamu House and the Thea Bowman Center.

Summer Explorations
KinderCare

Stimulate your tactile sense with water, sand, rice and play dough.

Save Your Place
Lake View Cemetery

Decorate a bookmark to "Save Your Place" in your favorite book using images of beautiful Lake View Cemetery landmarks.

Watch Me Grow
Montessori School at Holy Rosary

Create a paper flowerpot and plant your own seed.

Out There: Landscape in the New Millennium
Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland

Create a postcard that depicts a scene that is real or out of this world.

Stepping Out on the Circle
Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine/Cleveland Foot and Ankle Clinic

Get a foot stamp and foot sucker. Have your picture taken with "Big Foot". Learn about healthy foot care.

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Puppet Shows and Stories
Puppetry Guild of Northeastern Ohio
Western Reserve Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling (WRAPPS)

Enjoy delightful puppet plays and enchanting tales.

Festive Faces
Ronald McDonald House

Create a Parade Day face with masterful face painters.

Pop Up on the Wild Side
Western Reserve Historical Society

Create a 3-D pop-up card that features Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are* characters on a visit to Millionaire's Row.

Weaving a Masterpiece
Young Audiences of Greater Cleveland

Unleash your inner artist by weaving a kaleidoscope of colors, textures and shapes into a community art project.

Organizers: Circle Village is coordinated by University Circle Incorporated.

Sponsors: The Parade is sponsored by the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art. Additional support for the event comes from the Ohio Arts Council, The Cleveland Coca-Cola Bottling Company, the City of Cleveland, Cleveland City Council members, Patricia J. Britt (Ward 6), Sabra Pierce Scott (Ward 8), and Kevin Conwell (Ward 9), Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners; Jimmy Dimora, Timothy F. Hagan and Peter Lawson Jones, Plidco, Target and the Black McDonald's Owners Association.

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ABOUT THE PARADE GUEST ARTISTS

Pedro Adorno and Cathy Vigo
Pedro Adorno (born July 1968) of San Juan, Puerto Rico, is an actor, puppeteer, mask maker, stiltdancer and theater director. Adorno has participated in modern dance and experimental dance, performing under the direction of Petra Bravo. He has toured as an actor and a musician for three years with the Teatreros Ambulantes de Cayey and traveled and performed in Martinique and Cuba with the theatre group. Adorno's last appearance in Parade the Circle Celebration was in 1999. He is currently working on his first film project. Vigo was a member of the San Juan Ballet before co-founding Agua, Sol y Sereno with Adorno. Currently in addition to being a member of the company, she is the head of the dance program at the San Juan High School for the Arts.

Amy Ballestad and Mary Jo Nikolai
Amy Ballestad and Mary Jo Nikolai both of Minneapolis, are artists who work with that city's Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater as artists-in-residence and instructors of youth programs. They are members of BareBones Productions Puppet Collective, whose annual outdoor Harvest/Halloween Pageant has become a Minneapolis fall ritual and features large self-illuminated puppets, pyrotechnics, stiltwalking and music. Ballestad is a founding member of Chicks on Sticks, an all-female stiltwalking group that creates stilt performances and conducts workshops with community youth programs. Nikolai has worked as a puppeteer/performer and community organizer for Earth Celebrations in New York City.

Anne Cubberly
Anne Cubberly, 43, of Hartford, Conn., has been a professional artist for two decades. Her ensemble for Parade The Circle 2005 draws from her experience reclaiming diverse cast-off materials and, like a conductor, turning them into bigger-than-life beings. In 2005 Ann is going to work with emerging sculptors from the Sculpture Center to create bouroquuites for the "Inside Out" finale section of the parade. Cubberly, says she is fascinated by the process of reclaiming the cast-off items. "They have a soul. They've had a life before they met me," she says. Cubberly incorporates them into new, unique pieces of art that she can see as a whole. She likens the process of creating the new piece to throwing a party "You invite all your friends over - they're all unique and wonderful - and then you watch how they all interact and get along and enjoy each other." This is her fourth year in Parade the Circle Celebration.

Kelvin Keli Cadiz, and Nkhruma Potts
Kelvin and Nkruma have been playing pan since they were 6 years old, giving 40 years between them. They are members of the NLCB (National Lottery Commission Board) Buccooneers elite stage side ensemble, which performs weekly at Sandy Point Village and the Buccoo Village Sunday School, as well as for cruise ships and many official functions. At Trinidad and Tobago Carnival 2005 The Buccooneers Steel Orchestra placed 6th nationally in the annual Panorama competition. Kelvin is arranging the music for the opening of Parade.

Oliver Hospedales
Oliver Hospedales is a pannist from Tunapuna, Trinidad. Oliver has been playing pan for 25 years. For the last 15 years he has been building and tuning pans. Ten years ago he began working as an arranger and four years ago started his own company, Caribbean Instrument Specialists. He has played with such notable Steel Bands as the Deltones, Skiffle Bunch and Exodus. Oliver will be arranging the music for the finale of Parade.

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Ronald Guy
Ronald Guy has been in the business of fashion and design for more than 20 years. His clothes have graced local and international stages and he has designed clothing for local music bands and artists. He has spent a number of years in Europe designing clothes with a Caribbean flavor for the European market. Ronald has also been instrumental in prototyping costumes for Peter Minshall's award-winning Carnival bands since 1997.

Michael Guy-James
Michael Guy-James has been travelling to Cleveland from Trinidad and Tobago as a guest artist for nine years. Originally trained with Peter Minshall's Calloo Company, Michael now designs his own carnival costumes. In 2003, Michael's designs won awards in both the Trinidad and Tobago and the Domenica Carnivals. In addition to his work for Parade the Circle Celebration, Michael has also designed costumes and sets for Cleveland Public Theatre, Western Reserve Historical Society and the Solon Youth Theatre. For Carnival 2005 in Trinidad Michael was production manager for the band "The Washing" which won medium band of the year.

Rudolph "Murphy" Winters
Carnival arts specialist Rudolph "Murphy" Winters is from Trinidad. Murphy has worked on the opening ceremonies of the 1987 Pan Am Games, the 100th Anniversary of Bastille Day in Paris (1990), the opening and closing ceremonies for the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, and the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Winters was also one of six artists who created the Rockin' in the Streets parade for the opening of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

Brad Harley and Rick Simon (Toronto, Canada)

ABOUT THE PARADE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Robin VanLear

Robin VanLear is artistic director of the Parade and CMA's community arts program. This winter she traveled to Tobago to design and direct the creation of a community carnival band with the students of Buccoo Government Primary School. The carnival band placed second in this year's competition. It was unique for its focus on involving the students in the creative process. The band emphasized utilizing recycled materials that the youth collected to implement the creation of costumes and masks, portraying various elements of the villages ecological landscape. In fall 2002 she was the recipient of the first annual Joseph D. Pigott University Circle Leadership Award. She was the 2001 recipient of the Robert P. Bergman Prize, awarded by the Cleveland Arts Prize committee. She was also a recipient of an Ohio Arts Council travel grant, which enabled her to travel extensively and attract guest artists from Cuba to Cleveland's Parade the Circle Celebration. VanLear created the first Parade the Circle in 1990, after serving as artistic director for the Summer Solstice Celebration in Santa Barbara, California. In 1984, she received her Master of Fine Arts in sculpture with an emphasis on performance art and sculpture from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She has lectured extensively and has served as artist-in-residence at several schools and art institutions. VanLear has created art performances and installations throughout the Cleveland area. She co-created and directed the Rockin' in the Streets parade for the opening of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum; co-designed the set, costumes and props for An Aesop Odyssey, presented by Cleveland Opera on Tour (1997); and co-designed the giant puppets and set for Peter and the Wolf (1997) and Pictures at an Exhibition (1998) for the Cleveland Orchestra. In winter 2005, VanLear was co-designer of a children's carnival band "Buccoo.com" which won the king, queen, and medium band title in Tobago.

** New to Parade the Circle this year.*